

Message Text

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN HELSINKI

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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S E C R E T SECTO 8114

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, GR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FORD'S BREAKFAST CONVERSATION WITH
PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL

1. CONVERATION FOCUSED ON ISSUES OF TURKISH OPIUM CONTROLS,
CYPTUS AND THE ARMS EMBARGO (NOT NECESSARILY IN THIS ORDER).
FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY ONLY.

2. REFERRING TO OUR EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE CONGRESSIONAL
ACTION TO LIFT THE EMBARGO, PRESIDENT FORD ASKED SECRETARY
KISSINGER TO EXPLAIN CONGRESSMAN TANGEL'S INTEREST IN
TURKISH OPIUM CONTROLS, THE SECRETARY SAID THAT RANGEL
WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE DRUG PROBLEM, AND THAT
IF HE WERE MADE AWARE OF ACTIVE TURKISH EFFORTS TO CONTROL
OPIUM PRODUCTION, HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO DELIVER AN
ADDITIONAL TEN VOTES.

3. DEMIREL REPLIED THAT THE GOT HAD TAKEN VERY STRICT
MEASURES IN THIS REGARD THIS YEAR. IT HAD PERMITTED
100,000 HECTARS TO BE DEVOTED TO OPIUM PRODUCTION, OF
WHICH ONLY 80,000 HAD ACTUALLY BEEN PLANTED. IT WAS
PAYING A GOOD PRICE FOR THE PRODUCE, AND HAD MORE THAN
1,000 OFFICIALS WORKING ON THE PROGRAM. HE NOTED THAT
INDIA PRODUCES 1,000 TONS OF OPIUM PER YEAR WHILE
TURKEY ONLY PRODUCES 200, BUT ASSURED THE PRESIDENT
THAT "WE DO NOT WANT TO POISON YOUR YOUTH." HE SAID

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THIS WAS SOMETHING HE FELT VERY STRONGLY ABOUT AND

THAT HE HAD TAKEN IT UP THREE OR FOUR TIMES WITH HIS CABINET. (FYI. A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO RANGEL CONVEYING SUBSTANCE OF DEMIREL'S REMARKS WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SENT.)

4. TURNING TO CYPRUS, THE SECRETARY SAID HE HAD THE FEELING THAT CARAMANLIS DEFINITELY WANTS TO SETTLE THIS PROBLEM. CARAMANLIS HAD TOLD THE PRESIDENT DURING THEIR MEETING ON THE PREVIOUS DAY THAT HE COULD CONTROL MAKARIOS, AND THAT HE AND MAKARIOS NOW ACCEPTS A BI-ZONAL FEDERATION. CARAMANLIS DID NOT GIVE ANY SPECIFIC FIGURES ON HOW MUCH TERRITORY SHOULD BE IN THE TURKISH ZONE, BUT HE DID SAY THAT IF IT WAS MADE TOO HIGH, IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO LIVE WITH IT IN GREECE. MAKARIOS, SAID THE SECRETARY, HAD TOLD US SEPARATELY THAT HE IS WILLING TO AGREE TO UP TO 25 PERCENT OF THE TERRITORY IN THE TURKISH ZONE, WHICH IS MORE THAN HE HAS EVER SAID TO US BEFORE. PRESIDENT FORD HAD REPLIED TO MAKARIOS THAT 25 PERCENT WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH.

5. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE THOUGHT PERSONALLY THAT NEGOTIATION SHOULD BE ATTEMPTED, AND THAT TURKEY COULD ACHIEVE MOST OF ITS ESSENTIAL GOALS IF IT SHOWED FLEXIBILITY. DEMIREL REPLIED THAT TURKEY WOULD CONTINUE TO DO ITS BEST TO FIND A SOLUTION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE COMMUNITIES SHOULD BE MAINTAINED, FOR IF IT WERE BROKEN, THE CHANCE FOR SETTLEMENT WOULD BE LOST.

6. DEMIREL SUGGESTED THAT THE FIRST STEP TOWARD RESOLVING THE CYPRUS PROBLEM SHOULD BE DISCUSSION OF THE FUNCTION AND ORGANIZATION OF A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THE SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT THE GREEKS HAD A REASONABLE ARGUMENT AGAINST MAKING CONCESSIONS ON THE CONCEPT OF A BI-ZONAL SOLUTION, AND ON THE POWERS OF A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UNTIL THEY HAD SOME BETTER IDEA HOW THE TERRITORY WOULD BE DIVIDED.

7. TURNING TO THE ARMS EMBARGO, THE PRESIDENT
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REPORTED ON THE EFFORTS HE HAD AND WAS MAKING WITH CONGRESS. HE STATED THAT WITH REGARD TO SUBSEQUENT PROGRESS ON CYPRUS, HIS WHOLE CREDIBILITY WAS AT STAKE. HE HAD TOLD CONGRESSMEN THAT DURING HIS MEETING WITH DEMIREL IN BRUSSELS, HE, PRESIDENT FORD, HAD PLEDGED A MAJOR EFFORT TO LIFT THE EMBARGO, WHILE DEMIREL HAD PROMISED HIS BEST EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE CYPRUS SITUATION. WHEN ASKED BY CONGRESSMEN WHAT

THE FINAL TERMS WOULD BE, THE PRESIDENT SAID HE HAD REPLIED THAT IT WAS NOT FOR HIM TO DEFINE THE TERMS, BUT THAT HE WAS SURE DEMIREL WOULD MAKE A GOOD EFFORT.

8. DEMIREL REPLIED THAT THE CONGRESSION ACTION WAS A FUNDAMENTAL OBSTACLE TO SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. TURKEY COULD NOT BEGIN TO SOLVE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM UNTIL THERE HAD BEEN PROGRESS ON THE ARMS EMBARGO.

9. THE PRESIDENT RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF THE FIFTY MILLION DOLLAR WAIVER ON GRANT AID TO TURKEY, AND WONDERED WHETHER SUCH AN ACTION WOULD BE HELPFUL. DEMIREL REPLIED THAT TURKEY WAS NOT SEEKING OUR AID BUT OUR FRIENDSHIP. THE TURKS ARE PROUD PEOPLE AND THEY WOULD NOT TAKE AID FROM A HOSTILE COUNTRY.

10. IN DISCUSSING HOW TO CHARACTERIZE THEIR CONVERSATION TO NEWSMEN AFTER THE MEETING, THE SECRETARY SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DEMIREL COULD SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE ABOUT ATTEMPTING TO SOLVE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. DEMIREL DEMURRED, STATING "I DON'T WANT TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS ANY LINK BETWEEN OUR RELATIONS WITH YOU AND CYPRUS."

11. THE PRESIDENT CLOSED BY THANKING DEMIREL FOR BEING SUCH A GOOD FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES.

12. FYI. THERE IS NO TRUTH IN THE WASHINGTON POST STORY BY DUSKO DODER, DATELINED HELSINKI, JULY 31, TO THE EFFECT THAT DEMIREL " INDICATED THAT MOST OF THE KEY U.S. FACILITIES WOULD BE PERMITTED TO RESUME OPERATIONS UNDER A NATO UMBRELLA EVEN IF CONGRESS DOES NOT LIFT THE EMBARGO." ON THE CONTRARY, THERE
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WAS NO DISCUSSION OF U.S. BASES, WHILE THE WHOLE THRUST OF DEMIREL'S REMARKS IMPLIED THAT US/TURKISH RELATIONS WOULD DETERIORATE STILL FURTHER IN ABSENCE OF MOVEMENT ON THE EMBARGO.
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